PHILIPLEE LLP SUMMER PROGRAMME 2027



Applications open on
Tuesday, 1 December 2027.

PHILIPLEE

philiplee.ie



Contents

I. About Philip Lee LLP 04

II. Application Process 08

III. From Intern to Trainee 12

IV. A Note from our Managing Partner 14

I.

About Philip Lee LLP



About Philip Lee LLP

Philip Lee LLP is one of Ireland's leading corporate and commercial law firms. Our Dublin head office is enhanced by offices in Cork, London and New York. We have built a team that can advise you on every aspect of your business, both in Ireland and internationally.

Our first-class lawyers support businesses across all of these sectors and beyond, providing a comprehensive service to address all of their legal requirements in every specialist area. The firm is ranked 'Top Tier' by International Law Firm Guides across a number of specialist practice areas and many of our lawyers are listed as 'leading individuals' in these areas, including:

- Banking and Finance
- Climate Projects
- Construction
- Corporate and M&A
- Data
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Energy and Natural Resources
- EU and Competition
- Information Technology
- Intellectual Property
- Media and Entertainment
- Planning and Environment
- Projects and PPP
- Real Estate
- Tax







Our Culture

At Philip Lee, our committees reflect our commitment to leading the way in creating a workplace and profession that is inclusive, responsible and forward thinking.

Each committee plays a vital role in shaping our culture, driving innovation and amplifying our values. Together, we are building a community where excellence thrive through collaboration, compassion and purpose.

Our committees include:

- Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Pro Bono Committee
- Pride Committee
- The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee
- The Green Committee
- The Social Committee
- Wellness Committee



Recruitment Team

From applying for our Summer Programme to progressing towards a traineeship, our Graduate Recruitment Team is on hand to provide guidance and support at every stage.

Nicola McKenna
Director
Human Resources





Niamh Kinsella
Manager
Human Resources

Hannah O'Shaughnessy
Executive
Human Resources





Karen Knight
Executive
Human Resources

Stay Connected

Follow us for a closer look at life at Philip Lee, including graduate opportunities, trainee stories, firm news and what's happening across the firm.

Philip Lee Website LinkedIn Instagram



Trainees being their authentic selves is important. Being intellectually curious is more important as to what you know the moment that you leave college.

RONAN DUNNE, HEAD OF EU AND COMPETITION

II.
SUMMER PROGRAMME
APPLICATION PROCESS

The Summer Programme

Our 10-week summer internship programme is the first step towards a traineeship with Philip Lee LLP and the firm's route to securing a trainee position. It offers an opportunity to experience life within the firm and build a foundation for the next stage of your legal career.

The programme begins each year on the last Monday in May. You will spend the full 10 weeks in one department, giving you time to develop your understanding of the team's work. During the programme, your performance will be assessed as part of the selection process for progression towards a traineeship.

How to Apply

Applications **open on 1 December** for the following summer's programme and close on **29 January,** giving candidates a two-month application window.

To apply, download the application form from the Careers page of the Philip Lee website. Complete the form and email it to careers@philiplee.ie before the closing date.

Your Pathway to a Traineeship

Successful completion of the summer programme may lead to an opportunity to progress towards a traineeship with the firm. The pathway involves the following stages:

1. **Complete the summer internship.** Participate in the 10-week programme and undergo a competency based performance assessment.
2. **Progress to a further fixed-term internship.** Candidates selected to continue on the traineeship pathway must complete a further six-month internship, beginning in November.
3. **Meet the examination requirement.** Following the six-month internship, you must have passed all FE-1 examinations to be considered for a place at Blackhall Place.
4. **Assessment for traineeship reviewed by trainee committee.**

The summer programme is your starting point for this pathway. **Progression is not automatic, and participation in the programme does not guarantee a traineeship.**

We look forward to welcoming aspiring solicitors who are ready to learn, contribute and take the first step in their legal careers with Philip Lee LLP.

Step 1 - Apply

- 1 December – 29 January
- Via our Careers page or
- Careers@philiplee.ie

Step 2 - The Summer Programme

- 10 weeks | Starts last Monday in May
- One department*
- Performance assessment

Step 3 - Further Internship

- 6 months | Fixed-term
- Starts in November
- For selected candidates

Step 4 - FE-1 and Progression

- Pass all FE-1 exams
- Complete extended internship
- Consideration for a training contract



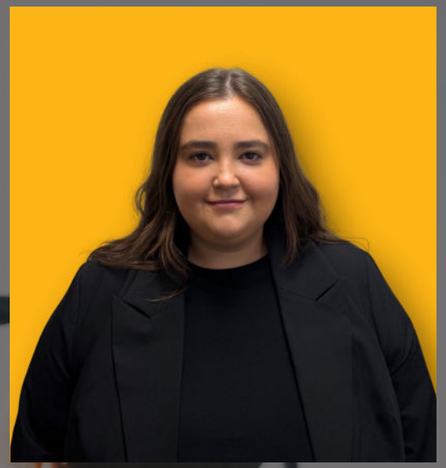
III.
FROM INTERN TO TRAINEE



From Intern to Trainee:

Alison - I first joined Philip Lee in 2022 as a DCU placement student on the Planning and Environmental team, gaining invaluable practical experience before completing my degree. I returned as an intern in October 2023, completing my remaining FE1's with the support of the firm's study leave policy. I was delighted to be offered a training contract with the firm in 2025. Since then, I have gained experience across a range of practice areas, including Construction, Procurement and Projects; Employment and Immigration; Planning and Environmental; and Commercial Litigation. One of the things I value most about training with Philip Lee is the level of responsibility and variety of work I have been given at every stage. Each rotation has provided opportunities to develop my skills through meaningful work, including drafting correspondence, preparing client advice and participating in client calls/meetings.

Grainne - I joined Philip Lee as a summer intern back in 2021 and I am now due to qualify as an Associate in the Banking & Finance team in January 2026. What I have valued most during my time at Philip Lee, is the opportunity to be involved in a variety of interesting and challenging work from an early stage. No two days are the same, and the variety of work has made my experience both interesting and rewarding. The support and encouragement I have received from colleagues has also played a huge part in my development. For anyone considering an internship or traineeship, I would highly recommend exploring the opportunities at Philip Lee. It is a great place to begin a legal career, with the support, experience and opportunities to help you grow and progress.



ALISON BYRNE
TRAINEE SOLICITOR

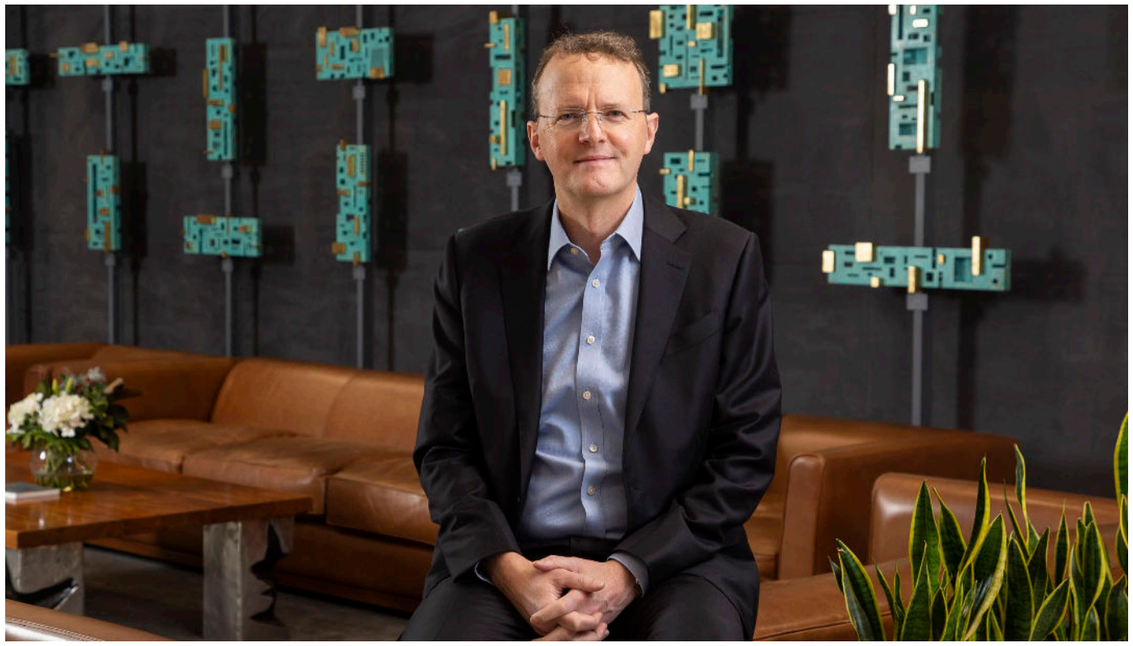
Alison Byrne



GRÁINNE CAREY
TRAINEE SOLICITOR

Gráinne Carey

IV.
A NOTE FROM OUR MANAGING PARTNER



Dear future trainee,

Although no two law firms have exactly the same culture and outlook, it can often be a challenge for potential traineeship applicants to differentiate between them.

How can you tell law firms apart, or whether a law firm offers the kind of culture and training environment that is right for you?

At Philip Lee we embrace individuality. We place a premium not just on legal knowledge but also on the ability to push, prod and provoke.

The Philip Lee Mentoring Programme pairs trainee solicitors with partners and associates on a rotational basis, providing a supportive environment for trainees to develop their personal and professional skills.

We encourage our trainees to take a high degree of ownership and responsibility as we believe that this helps them to discover their interests and ultimately to realise their potential. The firm's culture of curiosity creates a unique learning environment where talent and personality are encouraged to flourish.
We would be delighted to receive your application if you have some or all of the following qualities:

- a love of learning
- a strong academic record
- commercial awareness
- strong writing and research skills
- an engaging and positive character
- interesting experience
- great listening skills
- an interest in the firm's areas of expertise

You will find all of the information you need regarding our application process in this booklet, and on our website philiplee.ie.

Best of luck,

Jonathan Kelly
Managing Partner


PHILIPLEE